

Western Run School
Southwest side of Western Run
Rd. near Western Rd.
Not accessible
c. 1860

The Board of County School Commissioners purchased the property from the Matthew family who had owned the land since 1800 and it is presumed that the school house was erected at their expense. The one-room building was, spatially and functionally, like all rural school houses of its era; unlike most, however, it was distinguished by an arched ceiling and, probably, by a trussed roof structure.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

BA-317

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Western Run School

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Southwest side of Western Run Road near Western Road

CITY TOWN

Cockeysville

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

8

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Baltimore

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

— DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

— STRUCTURE

— SITE

— OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

— PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

— BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

— IN PROCESS

— BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED

— UNOCCUPIED

— WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

— YES RESTRICTED

— YES UNRESTRICTED

☒ NO

PRESENT USE

— AGRICULTURE

— COMMERCIAL

— EDUCATIONAL

— ENTERTAINMENT

— GOVERNMENT

— INDUSTRIAL

— MILITARY

— MUSEUM

— PARK

☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

— RELIGIOUS

— SCIENTIFIC

— TRANSPORTATION

— OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Lawrence A. Savin

Telephone #: 666-1545

STREET & NUMBER

Western Run Road

CITY TOWN

Cockeysville

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21030

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE.

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Baltimore County Courthouse

Liber #: 970

Folio #: 572

STREET & NUMBER

Washington Avenue

CITY TOWN

Towson

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None

DATE

— FEDERAL — STATE — COUNTY — LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Western Run School is a one and one-half storey gable roofed structure of rubble stone, three bays in length. Built as a one-room school in the mid-nineteenth century, it has been altered and adapted as a residence.

Originally, its principal entrance was centered in the east end; three 6/6 windows were on each side; wood lintels supports masonry above the openings and shutters or blinds hung at the windows. The roof pitch was slightly lower than it is today, and a semi-circular opening through each gable lit or ventilated the attic space. The single room inside had a simple plaster finish, and its plastered ceiling is said to have been arched. A board with hooks for hanging coats is said to have been attached to the wall all around the interior about shoulder-high; a small portion remains near the southwest corner in the present kitchen.

Additions and alterations to adapt the structure to residential use include:

An external stone chimney with fireplace, centered on the east end, covering the door and arched opening above

Raising the roof ridge about three feet, with three dormers on the north slope and one long shed-dormer on the south

A wide shed-roofed porch and small addition on the south side

Altering the west window on the north side and the east window on the south side to doors

(see continuation sheet #1)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES c.1860

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This house was a one-room school for the Western Run community from 1859 until 1908. The Board of County School Commissioners purchased the property from the Matthews family who had owned the land since 1800 and it is presumed that the school house was erected at their expense.

In 1920, the now defunct school was sold to James Durham and in 1935 was advertised for public sale as a stone, 1 storey house containing four rooms with a bad roof and peeling plaster. There was neither electricity nor modern improvements in the building. A frame stable, and two chicken houses were nearby as was a fine orchard.¹ The present owners, Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Savin purchased the structure in 1936 and have remodeled it extensively.

1 - From Judicial Liber 405/385-6

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Baltimore County Deeds.

Hopkins, G.M. Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland. (Philadelphia, 1877).

Judicial Liber: 405/360

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 2 acres +

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Catharine F. Black and James T. Wollon, Jr. AIA

ORGANIZATION

For Valleys Historical District Project

DATE

September

STREET & NUMBER

1114 Bellemore Road

TELEPHONE

323-3798

CITY OR TOWN

Baltimore

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

Continuation Sheet #1

Question #7 continued

Adding a large window through the west end in the first storey,
a smaller one in the second storey, and closing the west semi-
circular opening in the gable with stone

Removing the arched ceiling, replacing it with a conventional
second floor

Adding partitions as required in both storeys for its new use